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FRANK A. MUSEY

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The Star.....41,465

DR. JAMES UNFAIR TO THE DISTRICT.

In the face of evidence which should be convincing to any fair-minded man, President James of the University of Illinois is still fighting the proposal that the benefits of the Morrill acts be extended to the young people of the District of Columbia. He declines to accept the entirely reasonable theory that the District should be considered on the same basis as the States and Territories, for whose people the Morrill acts were passed, and sticks to his determination to prevent the District enjoying an appropriation for education which it so sorely needs.

In a carefully prepared statement to The Times today, Dr. Richard D. Harlan of George Washington University makes forceful reply to certain features of the opposition from Dr. James. He points out with convincing effect the absurdity of the principal claim, that to give the District the benefits of the Morrill acts would militate against the ultimate establishment here of a great national university.

The purposes of the Morrill acts are to assist in providing instruction in agriculture and mechanic arts for the young people of the individual States and Territories. It is extremely doubtful if the funds could ever be made available for a national educational institution such as Dr. James proposes—a university of universities, which would draw its students from among the graduates of other universities and give them post-graduate work. It would be directly against the spirit of the Morrill acts to make any such use of the funds.

Why, then, is Dr. James so insistent in his campaign against the District? Even if the movement for a national university gains headway and gives promise of being successful, it is hard to understand how the immediate benefits granted our young people by the Morrill acts could threaten the greater project.

Dr. James' position is untenable, and should not be seriously considered by Congress in disposing of the demands of the District for advantages which will but place it on an equality with the States and Territories, and which will in no wise endanger the establishment here, at some future time, of such an institution as Dr. James advocates.

MARYLAND LEGISLATURE FOR THE INCOME TAX.

The Maryland Legislature has done better than the Legislature of Virginia. In the closing hours of the session at Annapolis it adopted a concurrent resolution ratifying the income tax amendment to the Constitution. Most of the Democratic members lined up for the resolution though nine of them voted against it. If the Maryland legislators have not acted wisely in the adoption of the Digges plan of disfranchisement of negro voters they have to their credit the fact that they stood by the income tax, something in which many members of legislatures in Southern States have proven delinquent.

The action of the Maryland Legislature will offer no little encouragement to the supporters of the income tax in other Commonwealths. In this matter it has set an example which should commend itself to States like Virginia and others in the South where specious arguments have, for the time at least, got the better of the sound sense contained in the proposition, that the income tax levying power be afforded Congress by the Constitution.

LOAN AGENTS ASSAILED BY RICH WOMAN.

The iniquitous salary loan agent, known quite generally as the "loan shark" because of the character of his dealings with his victims, is about to be assailed from an unexpected quarter. Mrs. Russell Sage announces that she is going into competition with him, on a basis which will offer small borrowers a haven of refuge, and, she hopes, make it impossible for the modern Shylocks to continue the outrages of which they have been guilty for so many years.

Mrs. Sage proposes to establish a system of loan offices in the larger cities of New York State. They are to be conducted for the class of people who now find it necessary to patronize the loan sharks, but rates of interest will be such that the borrowers will not be robbed and will be able to see ahead of them, the day when they will

have discharged their obligations. In this respect the Sage offices will differ materially from the average loan agency. If the institutions are a success it is said to be Mrs. Sage's intention to extend them to practically every large city in the United States.

Here is an example of practical philanthropy. For several years numerous States and municipalities have been fighting loan sharks with but ill success. The viciousness of the agencies has been clearly demonstrated, but their necessity has also been established and Mrs. Sage very wisely and generously is seeking a remedy.

There seems to be no reason why the Sage loan offices should not be successful. They will not be conducted for profit, but they will maintain a rate of interest which it is hoped will ultimately make them self-supporting. The influence of the Sage fortune which will stand behind them will aid materially in the undertaking. The offices will be operated somewhat as the government pawnshops are operated in European countries but an important feature will be their loans on salaries or wages. It is in borrowing money on his income that the patron of the loan shark gets into most serious trouble. If Mrs. Sage can give him the chance to borrow on such a basis that he can repay without a frightful interest charge she will have earned for herself merited distinction as a lessener of human misery.

THE GOVERNMENT'S ATTACK ON BUCKET SHOPS.

The Department of Justice rendered the country good service when on Saturday its officers, armed with warrants from the Federal Court, raided three centers of bucket shops, with branch offices in various cities of the United States.

Bucket shops are a form of evil that has flourished despite a widespread sentiment against them. Laws have been passed to curb their activities, but only occasionally when their offenses have been so glaring that toleration of them could no longer be endured has adequate punishment been visited upon them. Patrons of a bucket shop as a rule are men who cannot afford to indulge in gambling in any form, and bucket shops may be reckoned among "sure-thing" games. Orders for the purchase and sale of stocks, bonds, grain, etc., placed with them are never executed. Sometimes the money is taken in at one end of the room and paid out at the other, but it is more often taken in than paid out. If the Department of Justice succeeds in wiping out this evil it will accomplish a good that cannot be overestimated.

Bucket shops have been in bad odor so long that it is surprising the Government did not act before. Only in instances like the present, where they do an interstate business and use the mails to separate the innocents from their cash, have the Federal authorities jurisdiction, but it is within the province of States and municipalities to break up the business when it is purely local, the same as they do when proprietors of faro, poker, and other gambling joints violate the law.

HUGE PROPORTIONS OF AUTOMOBILE BUSINESS.

Few realize the tremendous proportions which the automobile business has assumed. In the last few years it has been growing by leaps and bounds. The millionaire is no more insistent on having a machine than is the average well-to-do citizen. The prosperous farmer is a better support for the automobile market than his brother in the city. The physician uses an auto for his calls; the fashionable shopper uses a runabout to make the stores. Heavy hauling in the cities and towns is coming more and more to impress the auto into service. The uses for the motor vehicle of one sort and another are almost endless and they are growing in number.

What is the effect of this increasing demand on the sales of machines? Inevitably it is to make the business of manufacturing and selling autos one of the foremost of American industries. It is estimated by those competent to judge that 100,000 machines will be made and sold in the United States this year. Calculating the value of these at \$2,000 each, this gives a total of \$200,000,000 as the sum which will be expended on autos by the American people in the year 1910. Not including Sundays, this means about \$1,000,000 a day for machines.

Many features of the automobile business are worthy of comment, but one of the most noteworthy is the decline in imports and the beginning of an export movement. Our machines are on a par of excellence with the best of those made abroad. The demand for autos from the farmers is growing. It is estimated half of this year's demand comes from them. The farmer is coming more and more to appreciate that the auto is one of the most serviceable possessions he can have about the farm. The demand for heavy auto trucks is increasing in the cities.

"I would prefer to go straight to my home rather than have a public ovation in New York on my arrival," writes William J. Bryan from South America. That may be easily arranged.

Dr. Doyen, of Paris, claims he has discovered the elixir of youth. He does not say, however, that it would make Prof. Hilprecht live long enough to find a bona fide tablet telling about the flood.

Objection has been made by the Pittsburgh gratters' attorney that the foreman of the jury is a Washingtonian.

He must be afraid that the foreman lived next door to Senator La Follette.

That office boy in Ohio who said he had to go to the ball game in celebration of his grandmother's recovery from a serious illness was at least original.

If some of these kings Colonel Roosevelt visits learn half that he knows about politics, they may be expected to accomplish things worth while.

The only regret Mr. Fairbanks can have is that he did not show the same skill in handling the publicity end of his Vatican affair.

In addition to his other duties Mr. Gompers assumes with cheerfulness the work of a continuous joint debate with Mr. Taft.

It seems that John Calan O'Laughlin did not learn quite enough diplomacy while he was Assistant Secretary of State.

Senator Conger resigned from the New York senate yesterday, and nobody offered him a return ticket.

Attorney General Wickersham's deals with the bucket shops are about the only safe kind to indulge in.

Newport News is making good as the collision station for steamboats.

Peru is ready for war with Ecuador. Sick 'em!

Insurgency Elsewhere

Spain reports a "rising wave of democracy," but has it the insurgent tripwings?—Detroit, Free Press.

Insurgents in the Hungarian diet show inkblots at the ministry. Uncle Joe may proceed to congratulate himself—Milwaukee Sentinel.

Members of the Hungarian chamber of deputies violated ethics when they threw inkblots at each other. By throwing only the ink and doing this judiciously, they might have got magazine space rates.—Philadelphia Public Ledger.

When He Gets Back

Colonel Roosevelt's decision not to return home through the West is not surprising, considering the West is already sold for him.—Atlanta Journal.

Roosevelt will hear the real call of the Wilds until he gets back to civilization.—Atlanta Constitution.

It may be that Kermit will efface himself when he returns home, but we should believe it only after our Missouri incredulity has been successfully treated with the proof.—Houston Post.

TAFT WILL HEAR STRIKERS' PROTEST

South Bethlehem Steel Workers Will Urge President to Interfere.

As a means of affecting a settlement of the steel workers' strike in South Bethlehem, Pa., which has been dragging along for more than two months, a committee of strikers will confer with President Taft at the White House within the next two or three days.

While in Washington this committee also will ask Senators Penrose and Oliver of Pennsylvania to lend a hand in bringing about the end of the turmoil. Arrangements for these conferences are today being attended to by officials of the American Federation of Labor and the details will be telegraphed to Organizer Tazelaar, at South Bethlehem, who will assist the visiting committee. A committee of three of the steel strikers was in Washington last week and presented their cause to several members of the Congress and asked for aid in the form of an adoption of a resolution prohibiting the Bethlehem Steel Company from entering upon any further Government contracts until more efficient workmen are employed. The strikers claim that because of the non-union labor employed, the work is grossly inefficient, and that serious damage would be done to the Government by the defective ordnance.

It is the purpose of the strike committee to point out to the President Taft and to acquaint him with certain unfair methods which they allege the steel company has taken to break the strike.

That the strike is not gaining much headway and that the leaders consider the prospects very obscure at present, is looked upon as evident from the fact that the federation has notified the strikers of its refusal to scatter the strike to the East, to report to Organizer Tazelaar in South Bethlehem and help him pull out a victory. One of these reasons is being sent from the strike in Philadelphia, which is considered to indicate that the situation there is improving to such an extent that an extra organizer can be spared.

What's on the Program Tonight in Washington

Public art lecture by Dr. John Quincy Adams. Public Library, Mt. Vernon square, 8 p. m.
Entertainment and dance by Potomac Council, No. 28, N. U., Masonic Hall, Ninth and F streets, 8 p. m.
Columbia Heights Citizens' Association, Postoffice Hall, Park road, 8 p. m.
Lecture on "Bird Notes and Bird Songs," by Henry Oldys, Western Presbyterian Church, 8:15 p. m.
Dance by Naval Gun Factory Band, Pleasure Club, Navy Yard, 8:45 p. m.
Secular cantata by Chorus Club of McKendree M. E. Church, 915 Massachusetts avenue northwest, 8 p. m.
Princeton alumni banquet, Chevy Chase Club.

Theaters.
National—"Father and the Boys," 8:15 p. m.
Belasco-Viola Allen, in "The White Sister," 8:20 p. m.
Columbia-Evans' Minstrels, 8:15 p. m.
Chase-Polite vaudeville, 8:15 p. m.
Casino-Continous vaudeville.
Academy—"In Old Kentucky," 8:15 p. m.
Majestic-Vaudeville and motion pictures, 7 to 11 p. m.
Gayety—"The Lid Lifters," 8:15 p. m.
Lyceum—"Frolicsome Lambs," 8:15 p. m.
Arcade-Midway and other attractions.

(The Times will be pleased to announce meetings and entertainments in this column. Phone or write announcements.)

Capital Tales

The "Cowards."

"YOU see this broad, smooth road—very guileless of vehicles of any sort? Well, that represents the Representative's fear of his constituents."

Representative McCredie of Washington, plump, ruddy faced, and just at that moment perspiring freely, paused in his gassy walk through the subway leading to the House office building from the Capitol, and leaned against one of the iron posts for breath. The posts separate the sidewalk of the subway from the sixteen or eighteen-foot roadway.

"Over on the Senate side where there is no fear of an economically inclined constituency," continued Judge McCredie as he resumed his walk, "they have automobiles to take the Senators to and from their offices and the Capitol. They make the trip in comfort, with speed, and in a style befitting the dignity of their office. But there are no autos for us. I suppose that one reason they think we do not need automobiles through our subway is that we are young men, as a rule, than the Senators, and being ruddy faced, and just at that moment perspiring freely, paused in his gassy walk through the subway leading to the House office building from the Capitol, and leaned against one of the iron posts for breath. The posts separate the sidewalk of the subway from the sixteen or eighteen-foot roadway.

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Those Lunchrooms.

THE pieces of pie and the glasses of milk are growing smaller in the House restaurant at the Capitol. This discouraging fact has been gradually dawning upon the members for some time, and unless the shrinkage stops at once the lucky individual who is just now enjoying the eating of the pie and the milk is not too far from his office to the Capitol, a distance of two blocks. Out home he is not too good to walk, but as soon as he gets to Washington he begins to ride along in automobiles at the people's expense.

"What a splendid thing the eating of the pie and the milk is to the ordinary citizen, but it is not at all overdrawn. Many a man has lost his official head with less said against him."

Trouble for Norris.

THE way they feel toward Speaker Cannon in some regions out West is indicated by a funny complaint that Representative Norris of Nebraska has had to make to a newspaper man from his State.

Norris has long been the insurgent leader in parliamentary procedure, and he was the inventor and manager of the recent coup that took the Speaker of the House out of office.

A newspaper man, writing about the finale of that exciting affair, told of the House voting down the resolution to declare the chair vacant, and in a fit of enthusiasm added:

"Among the first men to hurry forward and shake hands and congratulate the Speaker on his personal vindication was Representative Norris himself."

Well, when that item got into the newspapers it certainly did start things in Norris' direction.

The boys out on the Nebraska prairie began writing letters and telegrams, demanding to know if it were true that Norris did actually shake hands and shake hands with the Speaker.

"We have been told out here," said one correspondent, "that you are more hated by the Speaker than any other man in the House. Have we been bunched?"

"And the worst of it is," said Mr. Norris in telling about his troubles, "that the Speaker hasn't spoken to me for nearly a year, and I haven't spoken to him. I didn't congratulate him, and don't appear to have any chance of congratulating him on anything for a mighty long time to come."

But the boys out on the prairie are suspicious. They saw it in the paper, and they want to be shown.

MAY USE FEDERAL SITES.

An evidence of its interest in the movement to establish children's playgrounds, the Treasury Department has decided to permit the use of unoccupied Government sites for that purpose. The department controls more than 300 buildings and sites throughout the United States, 125 of which are vacant.

MT. RANIER DESCRIBED.

Members of the Men's Club of the Mount Pleasant Congregational Church enjoyed a picture trip to Mt. Ranier and other points of interest of the Northwest last night, when E. B. Thompson, of the Reclamation Service, gave an illustrated lecture. Sunset effects along the sands, pictures of the San Juan Islands, and other points of interest, were shown and described. Flowers in their natural color were shown.

Mrs. Eckstein, of Cincinnati, Guest Of the President and Mrs. Taft

Mrs. Albert Ingalls Concludes Visit at the White House.

Charlie Taft Returns to School at Watertown, Connecticut.

The President and Mrs. Taft have as their guest at the White House Mrs. Eckstein, of Cincinnati, who arrived in Washington at noon today.

Mrs. Albert Ingalls left for New York this morning, after a stay of several days at the White House, and Charlie Taft returned to school at Watertown, Conn., after a few weeks' vacation.

The German Ambassador and Countess von Bernstorff were the principal guests of General and Mrs. Merritt at dinner last evening.

Younger Contingent Entertained at Dance.

Senator and Mrs. Elkins entertained the younger dancing contingent of Washington society at a dance at Raucher's last evening, in compliment to their debutante niece, Miss Katherine Brown.

Quantities of spring blossoms transformed the ball room suite into a floral bower and the Marine Band played for the dancing. Supper was served at midnight at small tables decorated with apple blossoms and pink roses.

Mrs. Elkins and Miss Brown received the guests together. Among the guests were the Misses Anderson, guests at the White House; Countess Louise Alexander, Countess Moltke, the Naval Attache of the French Embassy and Viscountess de la Roche, the Military Attache of the French Embassy and Mme. Lyonus, Mr. and Mrs. George Howard, Mr. and Mrs. Murray Cobb, Mr. and Mrs. Perry Belmont, Mr. and Mrs. Paul Pearson, the Naval Attache of the Spanish Legation and Mme. de Urcullo, Mr. and Mrs. John C. Lacey, Mr. and Mrs. Macaulay, Miss Merriam, Miss Hickley, Miss Irwin, Miss Clover, Miss Elsie Downing, Miss Pilling, Miss Helen Parker, Miss Miriam Crosby, Miss Evelyn Chew, Miss Esther Denney, Miss Townsend, Miss Krogstad, Miss Carlisle, Miss Jean Oliver, Miss Burnham, the Misses Williams, the Misses Fish, Miss Goldsborough, the Misses Smith, Miss Moore, Miss Eleanor Parker, Miss Feline Perkins, Miss Jennings, Miss Harriman, Miss Alexander, Miss Cecilia May, Miss Olga Roosevelt, Miss Ridgely, Miss Elsie Adair, Miss Terry, Miss Kitty Cameron, Miss Marion Weiss, Miss Weeks, the Misses Clark, Miss Sophie Boutwell, Miss Frances Noyes, Miss Newberry, Miss Harbour, the Postmaster General, Mr. Bradley, Judge and Mrs. De Lacy, Mr. Stanley Matthews, Gen. and Mrs. Anson Mills, Mr. and Mrs. Murray Cobb, Rear Admiral and Mrs. Mason, Mr. and Mrs. Acker, Dr. and Mrs. Lloyd Magruder, Dr. Rovee, Mrs. Robert Hinkley, Mr. and Mrs. Byron Adams, Mr. and Mrs. Hines, Miss Carter, and Dr. and Mrs. Dudley Morgan.

Some of those in the audience were Mr. and Mrs. Perry Belmont, who had a large party with them; Dr. Charles P. Neill, and the Danish Minister and Countess Moltke, the Naval Attache of the French Embassy and Viscountess de la Roche, the Military Attache of the French Embassy and Mme. Lyonus, Mr. and Mrs. George Howard, Mr. and Mrs. Murray Cobb, Mr. and Mrs. Perry Belmont, Mr. and Mrs. Paul Pearson, the Naval Attache of the Spanish Legation and Mme. de Urcullo, Mr. and Mrs. John C. Lacey, Mr. and Mrs. Macaulay, Miss Merriam, Miss Hickley, Miss Irwin, Miss Clover, Miss Elsie Downing, Miss Pilling, Miss Helen Parker, Miss Miriam Crosby, Miss Evelyn Chew, Miss Esther Denney, Miss Townsend, Miss Krogstad, Miss Carlisle, Miss Jean Oliver, Miss Burnham, the Misses Williams, the Misses Fish, Miss Goldsborough, the Misses Smith, Miss Moore, Miss Eleanor Parker, Miss Feline Perkins, Miss Jennings, Miss Harriman, Miss Alexander, Miss Cecilia May, Miss Olga Roosevelt, Miss Ridgely, Miss Elsie Adair, Miss Terry, Miss Kitty Cameron, Miss Marion Weiss, Miss Weeks, the Misses Clark, Miss Sophie Boutwell, Miss Frances Noyes, Miss Newberry, Miss Harbour, the Postmaster General, Mr. Bradley, Judge and Mrs. De Lacy, Mr. Stanley Matthews, Gen. and Mrs. Anson Mills, Mr. and Mrs. Murray Cobb, Rear Admiral and Mrs. Mason, Mr. and Mrs. Acker, Dr. and Mrs. Lloyd Magruder, Dr. Rovee, Mrs. Robert Hinkley, Mr. and Mrs. Byron Adams, Mr. and Mrs. Hines, Miss Carter, and Dr. and Mrs. Dudley Morgan.

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